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Letter dated 3 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Poland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On the instruction of my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the Declaration and Action Plan adopted by the Warsaw Conference on Combating Terrorism, held in Warsaw on 6 November 2001, on the initiative of Aleksander Kwaśniewski, President of the Republic of Poland (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the Declaration and Action Plan distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Janusz **Stańczyk**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 3 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Poland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Declaration of the Warsaw Conference on Combating Terrorism

November 6th, 2001

We, the Heads of State of Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, have gathered in Warsaw, November 6th, 2001, and have exchanged views on our common experience of the 20th century, including the successful struggle to regain freedom, liberties and to enjoy transformation to democracy and prosperity. We pledge to stay united with other countries in condemning the covert and hideous attack on September 11th, 2001, against the United States, in which thousands of innocent people of different nationalities were killed or injured. We stand by the American nation, just as they supported us in our struggle for freedom.

We express our denouncement of international terrorism's utter disregard for innocent life.

We want to stress that fight against international terrorism we see as a war between humanity and barbarism, and not between different religions or cultures.

We strongly believe that this attack against the United States of America was an assault on basic freedoms and security of all the people of our world.

We, the Heads of State of Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, being responsible for the security and freedom of our people, firmly pledge to implement various ways and means to fight terrorist activities in our regions or elsewhere and to support any necessary action to stamp out terrorist organisations, so that there are no safe havens for terrorists anywhere.

We unconditionally support the action being taken against terrorism in all its aspects within the framework defined by the United Nations and by other international organisations, in particular by the European Union which, by the means of the so far proclaimed documents unequivocally denounced any acts of international terrorism perpetrated against any nation. In particular we call upon all states to implement fully the requirements of UNSCR 1373 and 1333 and to ratify the 12 international conventions relating to terrorism.

We strongly encourage international organisations such as the UN, OSCE, Council of Europe and NATO to take necessary measures to assist in full implementation of relevant international conventions relating to international terrorism and pledge as member states to actively contribute to those efforts. In this respect we share position of the European Union, expressed *inter alia*, in the *Conclusions and Action Plan of the Extraordinary European Council* of September 21st, 2001, that far greater co-operation in international fora is needed to fight international terrorism. We welcome NATO's efforts among Allies and their

Partners to develop capabilities to defend against terrorism. We welcome the OSCE and the Council of Europe contributions to the fight against terrorism by resort to those Organisations' specific expertises. In order to harmonize our efforts in this field we have agreed to and adopted the „Action Plan" enumerating concrete spheres of co-operation our countries will pursue.

Our specific aim is to provide a regional dimension to the comprehensive worldwide efforts against this scourge of the 21st century. Nations of Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe stand united in their fight against terror - as long as it takes – by means of close co-operation with the United States, acting in concert with the rest of international community. Terrorists do not share values of democracy or freedom or justice as we do. In coalition we will be able to bring to account all those responsible for terrorist attacks, to better target terrorists organisations, their financial, communication and logistic networks and those who instigate, support, finance, train, equip and harbour them.

We must redouble our efforts in fighting international terrorism and devote more attention to study its sources. We do believe that existing regimes of export control, including arms and dual use items, can be implemented more efficiently, as well as far greater co-operation on non-proliferation issues is needed. We will ask our national agencies to take adequate steps in this respect, also in such fields like, for example, aviation, maritime security, law-enforcement and terrorist-financing. To promote mutual co-operation in the suppression of international terrorism we declare readiness to enhance intelligence sharing and co-operation, and to undertake other necessary measures in support of operations against international terrorism.

Enhancement of security measures is extremely urgent. Furthermore we believe that in many cases national legislation should be modified in order to strengthen institutions responsible for security matters (such as police, special services, immigration, etc.), while individual liberties also have to be protected. Democracy cannot imply that the state attacked by terrorists shall be defenceless. It has its inherent right to individual and collective self-defence.

Having met in Warsaw, we have initiated discussion on various methods to achieve this goal, using all the instruments at our disposal, both as individual states and as members of multilateral organisations. We believe that the swift enlargement of the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation will make the fight with international terrorism more efficient. We have agreed to review the development and implementation of all initiatives accepted today at the Warsaw Conference at its next stage to be held next year, the venue and modalities of which will be determined in due course.

Our states and peoples fully identify with the efforts – political, military, economic, humanitarian and others - undertaken by the United States of America and its friends and allies, as we are the United States' friends and allies in the broad counter-terrorism coalition. Without hesitation we give our utmost support for the U.S.-led operations against terrorist targets.

Being resolved to make the counter-terrorism coalition strong and united, being convinced that the counter-terrorism coalition must be made as broad and efficient as possible in its diplomatic, financial, economic, law-enforcement, intelligence and military co-operation, the unity of our world is indispensable for the successful struggle with the cancer of international terrorism.

Once again, taking this opportunity, we convey our expressions of condolence and sympathy to the American people who suffered immense tragedy. At this difficult time, in the name of solidarity we stand united with the American nation. People around the world watched the shocking scenes from America realising that what happened to the US could happen anywhere else. Terrorism menace has no limits. These atrocities were targeted not only against the United States but also against the whole humanity. We are convinced that being strong together we shall defend all basic values of our world.

Democracies, open, free and plural, shall prevail.

* * *

The following states participated in the Conference:

Republic of Albania
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Republic of Bulgaria
Republic of Croatia
Czech Republic
Republic of Estonia
Republic of Hungary
Republic of Latvia
Republic of Lithuania
Republic of Moldova
Republic of Poland
Romania
Republic of Slovakia
Republic of Slovenia
Ukraine
Federal Republic of Yugoslavia
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

The Conference was also attended by high representatives of the Republic of Belarus, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Turkey the United States of America, and European Union (Presidency and Commission), United Nations, Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, as observers.

Action Plan of the Warsaw Conference on Combating Terrorism November 6th, 2001

We, the Heads of State of Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe participating in the Warsaw Conference on November 6th, 2001, hereafter referred to as the Participants, are determined to strengthen and unite our efforts in solidarity with the United States of America, other members of the North Atlantic Alliance and all those, who consider international terrorism as paramount threat of the 21st century. We have decided to give our full political support to this Action Plan.

The Participants have discussed proposals of activities and initiatives of regional co-operation to be implemented in the fight against international terrorism. They support the efforts undertaken by NATO and the EU, and express their readiness and commitment to co-operate to the fullest extent possible. They have also agreed to recommend to their Governments and strongly support the initiatives and instruments (intelligence, police co-operation, elimination of terrorist financing sources), as follows:

1. Express interest in deepening co-operation enabling them to provide quick and effective information exchange on possible sources of international terrorism and on terrorist threats, and to make a better use of contact points established at international institutions or the services of liaison officers;

2. Accept and promote the use of forms and methods in the struggle against international terrorism in accordance with the EU regulations and UNSC resolutions:

   a) **in the area of legislation, institutions and economy:** adoption of procedures and instruments (compatible or identical with EUROPOL procedures and focusing on adoption of the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force – FATF and Egmont Group) to combat money laundering (co-operation between appropriate treasury and custom institutions), drug trafficking (co-operation of police and other state services), and increasing the level of international co-operation of these services;

   b) **in the area of exchange of information and intelligence:** strengthening of the co-operation among countries of anti-terrorist coalition on bilateral and multilateral bases. In addition to existing bilateral mechanisms of co-operation, we shall examine and analyse together the terrorists activities, including the means of joint gathering verifying and exchanging information and archive resources, and contribute to establishment of a uniform definition of „international terrorism". Participants shall share their

experience and knowledge regarding countries or groups suspected of being involved in international terrorism;

c) **in the area of the movement of persons, goods and information:** on the basis of current EU proposals, elaboration of uniform methods of passport control and customs clearance (co-operation between border and immigration services and police), including protection against illegal migration and movements of the extremist groups through the territories of the Participants' states;

d) **in institutional sphere:** making a better use of the existing co-operation frameworks, such as SECI Regional Center for Combating Trans-Border Crime and other multilateral institutions.

3. Agree to consider the convocation of a Conference on Tolerance and Education on Multiculturalism. The long term objective of this Conference is to map and co-ordinate the activities of academic institutions and NGOs that concentrate on race tolerance;

4. Agree to consider the idea of creation the International Research Institute on Terrorism;

5. Relying on existing UN and other institutions, Participants shall consider the establishment of the Aid Foundation for victims of terrorism all over the world, which may also support research on terrorism. We shall exchange information about its activities;

6. Participants shall exchange their experiences in the area of anti-terrorist units and rescue teams training. While taking note of the existing international antiterrorist training courses, we have agreed to consider the establishment of the Training Centre for such units and teams from countries participating in the Warsaw Conference. The program of the Centre would be based upon experiences of the specialised anti-terrorist units of EAPC and OSCE countries.

7. Participants shall implement a system to monitor the problems of international terrorism. Authorised persons and institutions shall review and report to their Heads of State and relevant authorities on a regular basis about the progress on combating international terrorism.